

The Network for Peace through Dialogue
in cooperation with Marymount Manhattan College

Presents

Dialogue In/As Action

Convicted Civility in a Religious Dialogue: A Mormon/Evangelical Case Study

By Gregory Johnson

Evangelical Pastor (and ex-Mormon) Gregory Johnson discussed his ongoing religious dialogue with Robert Millet, a Mormon friend. Through their friendship, the two men have learned a lot about each other, themselves, and their respective religions. They have published two books together and have conducted workshops around the country to facilitate dialogue between Mormon and Evangelical college students. They also acted as consultants to Mit Romney's presidential campaign, advising him on the issue of religion.

Gregory provided participants with a bit of historical background on the Mormon faith and the history of its relationship with Christianity (for example, the foundations of Mormonism assumed that Christianity was corrupt and needed to be replaced). Some contemporary Mormons are reassessing this stance and trying to be less exclusive. We watched a short video highlighting Gregory and Robert's work and relationship. In their dialogue, the two men have developed some very useful guidelines for convicted civility. A copy of their principles is attached. They treat each other with gentleness and respect, deferring to the good and striving to compare the very best that each of their religious traditions has to offer.